

# Federated States of Micronesia (Pohnpei)

## Middle School

### Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)



# FACT SHEET . . . . .

The Federated States of Micronesia (Pohnpei) Middle School GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability; environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS); cessation; media and advertising; and school curriculum. These determinants are the components Federated States of Micronesia could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Federated States of Micronesia GYTS was a school-based survey of middle and high school students conducted separately in Chuuk, Kosrae, and Pohnpei in 2001. 24 of 25 middle schools in Pohnpei were included in the middle school study and all students in grades 6-8 in each school were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 96.0%, the student response rate was 91.1%, and the overall response rate was 87.5%. A total of 1,447 students participated in the Federated States of Micronesia (Pohnpei) Middle School GYTS.

## Prevalence

- 49.8% of students had ever smoked cigarettes
- 35.1% currently use any tobacco product
- 15.4% currently smoke cigarettes
- 22.4% currently use smokeless tobacco products
- 36.5% of current smokers feel they need a cigarette every day

## Knowledge and Attitudes

- 49.5% think people can get addicted to tobacco use
- 52.6% think young people who smoke have more friends
- 38.8% think smoking cigarettes makes young people look cool or fit in
- 55.4% think smoke from others is harmful to them

## Access and Availability – Current Smokers

- 65.6% buy cigarettes in a store
- 50.0% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age
- 54.0% had not been refused purchase of cigarettes in a store because of their age

## Environmental Tobacco Smoke

- 40.4% were in the same room with someone smoking in the past 7 days
- 49.3% rode in a car with someone who was smoking in the past 7 days
- 49.1% live with someone who smokes
- 48.0% have one or more friends who smoke

## Cessation – Current Smokers

- 90.6% want to stop smoking
- 75.0% tried to stop smoking during the past year
- 46.7% ever participated in a program to help them quit smoking

## Media and Advertising

- 50.6% saw or heard anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days
- 87.8% saw pro-tobacco media messages in the past 30 days
- 37.4% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 40.5% would wear something with a tobacco company name or logo on it

## School

- 35.4% had been taught ways to say “no” to tobacco in class during the past year

## Highlights

- Cigarette smoking is high and use of smokeless tobacco products is high.
- 9 in 10 smokers want to stop.
- ETS exposure is high
- 9 in 10 saw pro-tobacco media messages; only 5 in 10 saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days.
- Only 1 in 3 taught ways to say “no” to tobacco in school the past year.

## Recommendations

- A youth cessation program is needed.
- Effective tobacco use prevention curricula need to be accessible to more students.

## Actions

- <country add if applicable>